The A. F. of L. Weekly News Letter contains a brief summary of important matters affecting labor, occurring in the industrial, legislative, and judicial fields, and such other information that will benefit the trade union movement.

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

WEEKLY NEWS LETTER

Entered as second-class matter, September 26, 1912, at the Post-office at Washington, D. C., under the act of August 24, 1912.

AGITATE! EDUCATE! ORGANIZE!

VOL. 5, NO. 15. WASHINGTON, D. C., SATURDAY, JULY 10, 1915. WHOLE NO. 223.

WOMEN'S WAGES ARE SMALL

Ohio Officials Support Claim of Organized Labor.

LOW RATES CAUSE STEADY DEFICITS

Does "American Standard" Mean Nine Cents a Week for Education, Books and Music?

Columbus, Ohio, July 10.—After investigations by the state industrial commission that body declares it costs Ohio working women $7.94 to live in decency and comfort. The investigation was limited to females over eighteen years, native Americans, and "those who make the American standard of living." Only women living away from home and earning less than $12 a week were surveyed.

To maintain the so-called "American standard," these women spend an average of $7.94 a week, divided as follows:

Food and shelter, $3.96; clothing, $1.94; laundry, 12c; car fare, 20c; health, 25c; recreation and amusement, $1; fruit, soda, and candy, 50c; education (books, papers, music, etc.), 9c; church and charity, 11c; stamps and stationery, 5c; association dues, 2c; insurance, 10c; gifts, 21c; and incidentals, 37c.

To reach these conclusions, 26 cases were surveyed in Cincinnati, 27 in Cleveland, 10 in Columbus, and 11 in Toledo. The average income of the women investigated is: Cincinnati, $8.34; Cleveland, $8.23; Columbus, $8.; and Toledo, $7.81.

Living expenses in the four cities run: Cincinnati, $8.22; Cleveland, $8.25; Columbus, $7.59; Toledo, $7.71. In Cincinnati the woman worker has a weekly surplus of 12 cents over living expenses, in Toledo 10 cents surplus; in Columbus 4 cent deficit, and in Cleveland 2 cents deficit.

STREET CAR MEN RAISE WAGES.

Worcester, Mass, July 10.—Numerous conferences between the Consolidated Street Railway Company and representatives of the Amalgamated Street Car Men's union has resulted in wage increases that will total $75,000 a year. The minimum for first-year men is raised from 23c to 25c an hour first six months and from 24½ to 26½ cents for the second six months. Second-year men are increased from 26 to 28 cents, third-year men from 27 to 29 cents, and fourth year men from 28½ to 30½ cents each. Beginning in 1915, when the rate will be further increased to 31 cents an hour for a nine-hour day.

After nine hours the men will receive single time for the first hour and one and one-half thereafter. Spare men, according to the agreement, are guaranteed an hour's pay when they report for work.

Conductors and motormen on the Springfield division have received a new schedule for overtime work. Wages for miscellaneous employes has been raised.

CLERKS' DISPUTE ENDED.

New Haven, Conn., July 10.—All danger of a strike of New York, New Haven & Hartford railway clerks was removed at the settlement of the most important question, involving the right of clerks to appeal from decisions. The new rule provides that all grievances, except those involving compensation, may be laid before the general superintendent, who shall appoint a committee, of which he may be a member, to hold a hearing and make final disposition of the matter. The rule is similar to the one now in force between the company and the engineers and firemen.

The clerks are members of the Brotherhood of Railway Clerks, affiliated to the American Federation of Labor. Negotiations have been pending for over two months because of a list of sixteen grievances submitted. G. W. W. Hanger, of Washington, appointed mediator by the United States department of labor, assisted in adjusting the dispute.

FAVORS U. S. WIRE CONTROL.

Washington, July 10.—Postmaster General Burleson will renew his recommendation of last year to the coming Congress that the government should control the telephone and telegraph service.

"It is an interesting fact that whereas policies of government have been advocated and soon adopted, the constitutionality of which have been seriously questioned, the additional government ownership and control of the telegraph and telephone finds its origin in the United States, notwithstanding," he says. "This opinion has been shared by practically all postmasters general of the United States, who have held that the welfare and the happiness of the Nation depend upon the broad utilization of these agencies by the people, which can only be accomplished through government ownership."

MINERS URGED TO GET IN LINE.

Joplin, Mo., July 10. — The Labor Tribune, official newspaper of the Trades Assembly, urges every idle miner to join the American Federation of Labor. These workers are asking for wage increases, since zinc is selling around $100 a ton. The Labor Tribune warns the miners that they will secure no lasting results until they join with the bona fide trade union movement, and invites them to participate in a conference with local unionists.

CAR MEN SIGN AGREEMENT.

Lexington, Ky., July 10.—The Street Car Men's union and the Kentucky Traction and Terminal company have signed an agreement, effective until June 30, 1918. The wage scale is based on the hour of service, and runs from 17 to 21 cents per hour for motormen and conductors on city cars and 20 and 22 cents on suburbans. The company refused to concede the union shop, but it is agreed that unionists have a right to wear their union button at all times.

BIDS GOOD-BY TO WIRES.

New York, July 10.—Nikola Tesla, electrical expert and pioneer in the field of wireless telegraphy and telephony, predicts the end of transmitting by wires. He declares that the wireless telephone is practical, and that only a few mechanical details need to be improved to make it of general service.

"The day of the wireless telephone and even the wireless photograph transmitter is not far off," he said.

DEMAND UNION SHOP.

Oakland, Cal., July 10.—The Street Car Men's union has declared for the union shop. They insist that every worker in this calling should support the institution that has made present conditions possible.

UNIONS WAIVE RIGHTS; WAR DESTROYS LIBERTY

London, England, July 10.—The new munitions bill is another reminder that war destroys individual liberty and makes the citizen but a cog in the state's machine. The bill is the result of a conference between Lloyd George and trade union officials, and is intended to secure a greater output of war material.

The leading provisions of the bill are:

Strikes and lockouts are illegal.

Local district committees will have power to fine any workmen who commit a breach of discipline or is found guilty of "slacking."

Any trade union rule the munitions courts declare interferes with industry shall be abandoned.

Factories that manufacture munitions shall be controlled by the state.

The bill limits the number of men employed in these factories. Employers are not permitted to engage or retain workers contrary to orders of the committee.

Trade unions are to recruit a volunteer army of workmen who will sign an agreement pledging themselves to work in any state-controlled factory. Traveling allowance and extra subsistence allowance will be made for families.

These volunteers are to be enrolled for six months and may sign a new agreement at their option. They are under orders to go anywhere assigned.

Time rates are to be paid according to decisions of the munitions committee or arbitration boards.

Munitions committees have unlimited power. Membership on these committees consists of an equal number of employers and employes. Minister of Munitions Lloyd George will name the presiding officers. Individual workmen are fined up to $15 for each offense. A refusal to pay may be followed by expulsion from the union with loss of all benefits.

A NOVEL "REFERENDUM."

Washington, July 10.—Trades unionists have had the notion forced on a referendum afforded opportunity for the presentation of both sides of a question. This has been somewhat modified by the action taken by the Chamber of Commerce of the United States. Under this organization will hold a referendum on the seamen's bill.

The chamber intimates that the following plan, if adopted by affiliated organizations, will be considered an expression of opinion and be the same time dispense with any consideration of the subject by individual members.

A popular referendum, which commends itself highly as providing a means for other associations that find it referring the referendum pamphlet to a special committee which in turn, prepares its report and recommendations as to voting. This is then submitted to the entire membership."

This scheme eliminates thinking or study by the membership, and a complete vote is the easiest thing imaginable.

That every possible force may be arrayed against the seamen's bill when the next Congress assembles, the Chamber of Commerce ends its announcement with the statement:

"It is hoped that the result may be known well in advance of the present date set for the convening of Congress."

NON-UNIONISTS DON'T SLEEP.

Washington, July 10. — A writer in one of the local papers makes comment to the effect that the Commission that street car men in the Nation's capital do not get sufficient sleep. The complaint is that the men employed by one of the companies go to work at 6 a. m. and make two or three trips and then "split" and "school" runs. They are then relieved from duty at 2 p. m., return ahead 3.30 or 4 p. m., working until 12.30 or 1 a. m., and again reporting at 6 a. m.

The commission is asked: "Do you think that a man who is required to work until 1 a. m. is prompt to rise at 5 a. m. in order to take his car out at 6 a. m. and yet perform his duties in a careful and courteous manner?"

The two street car companies in this city are unorganized, but extra pay is awarded these workers as a holiday present—that is, if receipts reach a certain figure. Last year each worker in one of the companies received about $50 extra. Many of the men and conductors of both companies are prohibited to sell tickets during worker for one of the companies, which is attended by company officials, when impressing the workers the necessity for "attention to their duties."

LIABILITY ACT NOT NARROW.

Washington, July 10. — The United States supreme court has ruled that the federal compensation act cannot be construed in a narrow sense, but must be given a liberal interpretation. This decision was made in the case of a brakeman against the New York Central railroad. The question involved was whether the brakeman was operating in interstate commerce at the time of his injuries. The company denied this and insisted that it was not liable.

The supreme court, speaking through Justice Lamar, held that the question whether the brakeman was in interstate commerce was not to be determined by his physical location at the time of injury. The law must be construed in a liberal way. The brakeman was on the line of interstate and his general status as an employe in interstate commerce was not changed by the fact that he had left the main line of track to do a service incident to the movement of the interstate train.

JOIN WITH EMPLOYERS.

Racine, Wis., July 10.—Members of the Building Trades Council have rejoined with employers to better working conditions and also bring the Racine organization back into closer contact with building craftsmen. It is intended to reach a better understanding on the matter of apprentices, so that boys and young men who desire to follow this industry as a means of a livelihood.

BARBERS' BOARD REORGANIZED.

Madison, Wis., July 10.—Under the new law appointment to membership on the state barbers' board is invested in the state board of health, which will inspect shops, while the barbers' board will serve as an examining board only. The annual fee for barbers is reduced from $3 to $1.

WOMAN SUFFRAGE LOSES.

Madison, Wis., July 10.—Woman suffrage met with a temporary setback in this state when the senate, by a vote of 14 to 11, refused to reconsider a former anti-suffrage decision.

"PINK TEAS AND WELFARE WORK DEVITALIZE WOMEN'S TRADES UNIONS"

—PRESIDENT GOMPERS, in "American Federationist."

Washington, July 10.—In the American Federationist, July issue, President Gompers calls on women workers to join the trade union movement, to depend on themselves, and not allow their organizations to be weakened and stifled by the futile efforts of so-called "uplifters." He also declares it is absolutely necessary for women to be accorded the right of suffrage. On this subject he says:

"Whenever opportunity and development are restricted, there influence and power are also restricted. Women cannot assume equal rights with men in the industrial struggle while classified with idiots and irresponsibles in political affairs.

"As a matter of justice, working women demand the ballot. They demand the right to participate in the determinations of political affairs because they are affected by those determinations. The ballot cannot long be withheld. The ballot will bring power, because it will bring full citizenship."

President Gompers gives these reasons for organization of women workers:

"The battle for freedom must be fought out on the industrial field. It will be achieved when wage-earning women hold in their own hands the right and the power to participate in determining the conditions under which they shall work and the wages they shall receive. They can delegate this power and responsibility to no outside authority if they wish industrial freedom.

"There is no easy way—but if anything in life is worth while it is the beautiful ideal of a rational individual ordering his or her own life in full acceptance of the opportunities and the limitations of freedom. Protection and regulation may offer immediate relief—but they are not freedom.

"Industrial freedom is not a sex problem—it is a human problem. The same principles apply to men and women alike.

"The women's movement for freedom must be real and candid; it must not allow itself to be suffocated or devitalized by frivolities and pink-tea imitations that have so long kept women from healthy, sane living. Those who profit by the exploitation of women will offer substitutes for the trade union movement—welfare work, vocational associations, and other charitable or semi-charitable institutions. The fight of women for industrial freedom is made doubly difficult by the usable tradition of the economic dependence of women, by patronizing social workers and by those who would prevent women in order to keep her from exercising her own will power and becoming a member of society upon equality with all.

"The trade union movement is the movement that offers women the opportunity to secure freedom as well as industrial protection.

"The recent convention (Women's Trade Union League) ought to put new life into efforts to organize women into trade unions to increase wages and better conditions, and this problem of organizing women cannot be separated from the problem of organizing men. Men must join the women in efforts to solve the common problem or else they will find women used against them as competitors.

Recently Mr. Butler, Jr., president of the Besemer Pig Iron association, said in regard to the idea of employing women in the metal industries: 'It would not be surprising to see women in the steel mills, blast furnaces, and mines, doing the work of men before the war is over.'

"The American Federation of Labor has helped to organize women as a necessary part of the campaign to organize and federate all the workers in a great movement for human welfare. Women are admitted to organizations on an equality with men, to equal rights and privileges in the organization. The trade union movement is a power for justice and equal opportunity for all, regardless of sex, nationality, politics, race or creed."

FAVORS SEAMEN'S LAW; OWNERS' PLEA EXPOSED

Washington, July 10.—"The seamen's act should stand exactly as it is, at least until the need is shown for amendment. The protest sent up by the steamship interests is entirely too self-centered to be considered without scrutiny," says the Washington Post in a leading editorial.

"The newspaper refuses to take the word of shipping interests and allies on this question and declares the companies are "trying to sabotage" the national administration into repealing the law by predicting the speedy death of all steamships.

"The law is not destructive of the merchant marine," says the Post. "It does require additional precautions, which cost some money. It provides that 75 per cent of the crew shall be able to understand the orders given by the officers. Is that unreasonable? What would be thought of a plan of sending a regiment of soldiers to protect the people of a city and permitting a majority of them to be Chinese? Soldiers could not understand the orders of their chief? A ship at sea needs equipment and discipline. In case of war and fire, where instant teamwork is necessary it is absolutely essential. At the concrete case of disaster on account of inability to understand orders was that of the steamer Volturno of Rio de Janeiro, lost at the entrance of the Golden Gate in 1901. Several nations to the number represented. The Chinese crew could not understand the orders of the American officers.

"The seamen's act also requires better provision for lifeboats and life rafts. Do the steamship companies object to this? If so, let them object. The country will not approve of a return to the old days when humane provisions safety appliances are an expense to the steamship companies. The public pays the bill in any event."

PRESSMEN'S DISPUTE ENDS.

Pressmen's Home, Tenn., July 10.—Differences between the International Printing Pressmen and Assistants' Union and publishers locals of New York city, leaders' unions of Buffalo and St. Louis and Web Pressmen's union of Newark, N. J., are at an end. Patience and continued negotiations have again united these workers. It is planned a report to this effect and call upon the membership to accept same with the end in view that the international "may be of increasing influence for the advancement of the requirements of our membership."

SUPPORT PROF. BREWSTER.

Denver, Colo., July 10.—The Trades and Labor Assembly has protested against the dismissal of Prof. Brewster from the law department of the state university, and declares that this action "is because of the subsidizing tendency of the Rockefeller influence and money, which seeks to use its influence with the board of regents to poison truth and justice at its fountain head, our institutions of learning."

IRON WORKERS WIN STRIKE.

Savannah, Ga., July 10.—The newly-organized Structural Iron Workers' union has won its strike for higher wages, time and a half for overtime and double time for Sunday work. The strike lasted less than three days.

COMPULSORY VOTING TRIED

Brisbane, Queensland, Australia, July 10.—At the recent elections the labor party secured control of the government in this state, which is the first compulsory voting for the first time in Australia. Opponents of the laborites passed the law, believing that it would aid them. The laborites secured their mistake.

Commenting on this new voting idea, the Adelaide Daily Herald predicts an extension of the compulsory voting plan, as the labor party controls Australia, and says:

"It is to be feared that many persons, who should be whole-heartedly for labor treat this question as a matter all too lightly. In time of national stress they will vote, but when all is going well, they will not. The obligation of voting previous acts as a spur to them. It may be taken for granted that the principle will be adopted in the commonwealth arena at an early date."

The Daily Herald says that the Queensland election and the triumph of the labor party shows that the voters in that state did not forget the clumsy attempts of the government three years ago to break a strike of street car workers, armed bodies of men were brought from the country districts, and the affair was treated as a civil war. Since then "there has been ample time to expose the lies that served so well years ago. Even the non-labor voters resented the deception that had been practiced on them.

WOUND INFECTIONS FOLLOW ACCIDENTS

Columbus, Ohio, July 10.—That more care is necessary to prevent infection of wounds is shown in a report on accidents, issued by the industrial commission of this state. Of 25,231 industrial accidents causing loss of time but not permanent injury, one out of every fourteen was infected in greater or lesser degree. Of 601 accidents which resulted in permanent partial disability, one out of every twenty-nine was complicated by infection.

According to this report, the danger of infection is much greater in cases of lacerations, punctures, abrasions, bruises, etc., than in cases of burns and scalds. Of 15,330 cases of laceration, etc., not one in ten became infected. One out of every twenty of the 2,286 burns, scalds, etc., was rendered more serious by infection. Although getting a foreign body in the eye is not regularly regarded as dangerous, in one out of every twenty-four such cases, infection followed. The following accidents analyzed in the report were ascribed to a variety of causes. The accidents which infection were ascribed to causes connected with the operation of various kinds of machinery, while wood, metal, chemicals and other materials handled, cost seventeen lives.

Stamping, shearing, and punching machines won an unenviable reputation as the first place machines of all types of machinery causing permanent partial disability. Out of a total of 601 such accidents, ninety-four were due to the action of machines of this type.

CO-OPERATIVE BILL LAW.

Springfield, Ill., July 10.—Governor Dunne has signed the co-operative bill, favored by the state federation of labor and farmers' organizations. This act is intended to protect co-operative movements, and it is believed will end the practice of enemies of co-operation securing control of the stock. Under the new law no member can own more than five shares. If proper provision is made in their by-laws, these societies can limit the voting power of each member to one vote in the election of officers and in the management of affairs. Liability is limited to the actual amount of stock each individual subscribes.

PASS ANTI-PICKET LAW.

San Diego, Cal., July 10.—The city council has passed an anti-picketing ordinance, despite a ruling to the contrary by City Solicitor Cosgrove.

The Labor Leader of this city declares the ordinance to be a duplicate of the infamous Los Angeles producer, which caused dissension between the employers and employes in that city and resulted in the arrest of hundreds of union men, without a single conviction. It is predicted that the ordinance, if signed by the mayor, will be resisted by the trade union movement.

IMMIGRATION FIGURES.

Washington, July 10.—Immigration figures for April, issued by the United States department of labor, show slight but steady increases. During the month, 22,363 immigrants were admitted. In April the number was 21,765, and in March, 26,355.

In view of additional European nations becoming involved in the war, this increase would indicate that the maximum of immigration to the United States has been reached.

The following figures for three months last year are printed for comparison, together with those for 1915:

	1914	1915
April	142,527	May, 126,-946
Italy, with 4,827, maintained its lead during May, 1915.		

The number of laborers totaled 5,399, while 1,956 farm laborers were admitted. Among the skilled workers, clerks and accountants led with 3,95. Carpenters and joiners were next with 438, followed by mariners, 284; tailors, 202; miners, 185, and masons, 152.

New York received the greatest number of these 21,942 immigrants, 7,415 announcing they would stay in this industrial state. Massachusetts received 2,581; Michigan, 2,544; California, 1,644; Pennsylvania, 1,535, and Illinois, 1,388.

BOSSES USE LOCKOUT; FORGET FORMER CLAIMS

Chicago, July 10.—When trade unionists strike in sympathy with workers battling against injustice, employers and the public press make wrathful protest. When employers lockout workers, cutting off the supplies of other employers who are at peace with their workers, not a word is said.

The carpenters' strike illustrates the above points, which are referred to as follows in the Federation of Labor's Weekly News Letter:

"In an effort to break the strike of the Chicago carpenters, employers are attempting to enforce a sympathetic lockout by shutting down on the supply men. The Chicago carpenters have won the fight to such an extent that they cannot now be defeated unless the various contractors who have signed the union scale can be put out of business by the refusal of other workmen to handle building material. The employers who are seeking to enforce this sympathetic lockout by shutting down on the supply men, the Chicago carpenters have for years been bitterly complaining against what they call the injustice of the sympathetic strike. They have been demanding that each union should agree to settle its own disputes, without asking other organizations. Now that their own ox is being gored, however, they are loudest in their wails. They are using almost every means in their power to put pressure on lumber yards, brick yards, sand, gravel, stone, wood, metal, glass, etc., was rendered more serious by infection. Although getting a foreign body in the eye is not regularly regarded as dangerous, in one out of every twenty-four such cases, infection followed. The following accidents analyzed in the report were ascribed to a variety of causes. The accidents which infection were ascribed to causes connected with the operation of various kinds of machinery, while wood, metal, chemicals and other materials handled, cost seventeen lives.

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GARMENT EMPLOYERS ABANDON "WAR TALK"

New York, July 10.—There will be no general strike in the garment industry of this city. The manufacturers plead for arbitration.

The manufacturers have changed their minds, since May 20 last, when they notified the International Ladies' Garment Workers' union that the Cloak, Suit and Skirt Manufacturers' association had abrogated the protocol between the two parties. The manufacturers followed this announcement by preparations for war, and statements that they would no longer deal with the union.

Curiously enough several of the union's officials were arrested at the same time.

These moves had an effect on the workers contrary than that intended. At one of the largest trade union meetings ever held in this city, President Gompers and other speakers urged the garment workers to steady their lines and prepare to resist the general attack on their organization.

Now the manufacturers want to arbitrate. They announce that:

"We are willing to go before a council of arbitration, to be made up of disinterested persons, and submit to its later our case before them, with the understanding that arbitrable questions may be left to the board of arbitration to be subsequently formed, if necessary."

Garment workers' unions are celebrating the "about face" of the manufacturers and continued peace in this industry is predicted.

OBJECT TO COURT'S POWER.

Adelaide, South Apstralia, July 10.—The tendency of courts to override the people's will prevails in this commonwealth as well as in other parts of the world. At the recent conference of the Australian labor party, held in this city, the following resolution was discussed for two days: "An amendment to the constitution to deprive the high court of its interpretation powers in regard to the federal constitution."

One delegate declared that this court stood above the constitution; that the courts had no right to nullify the laws, but to interpret them and avoid the abuses in legislation, and that this was the power of democracy which Australia had adopted in the fifth section.

The motion was lost. The majority agreed with the sentiments, but insisted that the interpretative power of the court is necessary as long as the commonwealth of Australia is a federation of states.

FREE SPEECH IN COLLEGES.

San Francisco, July 10.—The Evening Bulletin makes the comment on the Rockefeller foundation, in connection with the dismissal of Prof. Scott Nearing by the regents of Pennsylvania:

"It begins to appear that endowed universities and endowed charitable foundations are the most dangerous enemies to free thought in America. Endowments nowadays are almost always in the form of the stock of corporation securities. The list of securities of the Rockefeller foundation, for example, is almost certain to be the strongest and most highly centralized corporations in the United States. The investments of the Carnegie foundation will probably always be with the corporations who thus contribute to its support. The appointees to the chairpathies of the directors of an endowed university are almost sure to be those whose sympathies with all phases of the present order, whether good or bad, which help to keep money power in the hands of a small class.

TOO MUCH LEGISLATION.

Cape May, N. J., July 10.—Increasing legislation is caused by questions having been put to boot with which it was not couched in general terms so as to meet the requests of the constituents, says Benjamin S. Edwards in an address before the Pennsylvania Bar association.

The speaker approved the amendments of the late Judge Cooley:

"In your constitution making remember that time change, that men change, that new things are invented, new desires, new conditions arise, new plans, new use of corporate power. Don't do that to any such extent as to prevent the legislature hereafter from meeting all evils that may be within the reach of proper legislation. Leave something for them."

COST OF TUBERCULOSIS.

New York, July 10.—In a pamphlet on "What Tuberculosis Costs in Wages," the Metropolitan Life Insurance Co. and Prevention of Tuberculosis says that an investigation of 1,000 cases in Boston shows that these men lost over $625,000 in wages as a result of this disease.

The figures are based for action on this question, the pamphlet makes this point:

"Workingmen are always aroused when an employer or a group of employers suggest a reduction in wages. How many of them are ever aroused to enough enterprise to get up and make a fuss at the small per cent of their earnings which they are losing in wages every year because of some preventable disease, tuberculosis."

FEDERAL PRISONERS TO WORK.

Washington, July 10.—Attorney General Gregory announces that as a result of his investigation of the Atlanta federal prison, he hopes to find a way in which these prisoners may be put at work that will allow the government to give a part of what they earn to their families. The official states that labor of this sort would be only for the government, and would not be allowed to enter into competition with the product sent out by the prison-made goods into the open market.

VIOLATE LIMITED HOUR LAW.

Toledo, Ohio, July 10.—The Baltimore & Ohio and the Cincinnati, Hamilton & Dayton railroads are charged in the United States district court with violating the safety appliance law and the law limiting the hours of continuous service. Bernadotte Schmitt and others are filed against the first named road and Frederick C. Dumont against the latter, for violation of the federal statutes. The names of engineers, firemen and trainmen who were forced to work overtime are included in the complaint.

PAINTERS ARE WINNING.

Sioux City, Iowa, July 10.—Painters are winning their three months' lockout. The employers' association has met the withdrawal of one of the largest contractors from their organization. The strike, which began on April 1, is expected to end in a few days. Practically all of the strikers declare that opposition to them is losing its force.

FARMERS PROTEST VERDICT.

Everett, Wash., July 10.—Secretary Fred W. Lewis of the Washington state grange, has forwarded a protest to Governor Lister against the action of labor leaders of protesting resolutions against the Lawson verdict, declaring that the farmers at their recent state convention

COURT CITES LAWSON JUDGE

Must Prove He Is Qualified to Sit on Strike Cases.

COLORADO SUPREME COURT ACTS

Miners Charge that Judge Hilliyer is Prejudiced — His Connections with Operators Referred to.

Denver, Colo., July 10.—The state supreme court has ordered Judge Hilliyer, who presided at the Lawson trial, to show cause why he should not be debarred from the consideration of pending strike cases. This order of Colorado's highest tribunal is the first interference with the coal operators' program and may upset their plan of creating a special judicial district, presided over by one of their attorneys, to try unionists, charged with crime. Workers are hopeful that Judge Hilliyer will fail to convince the court he is "absolutely fair." They point to former proceedings of this character, where the supreme court has sustained, in practically every case, the plea of plaintiffs that other judges should be appointed.

Last summer Attorney Hawkins requested Judge Hilliyer to refer the strike cases to another judicial jurisdiction on the ground that he was formerly connected with the coal companies. This was refused, and if the decision of the state, declared by the miners' counsel to be arbitrary and capricious, will face a judge who, they declare under oath, they believe unfair.

"LOAN SHARKS" HIT.

Philadelphia, July 10.—City Solicitor Ryan has ruled that the city shall not recognize assignments of wages by city employes. A Portland, Me., concern asked that it be allowed $11.56 on an illegal assignment by a city fireman.

The city solicitor ruled:

"It has been for many years the settled policy of this state, declared by numerous statutes and various decisions of its courts, not to permit the assignment of future wages or salary for a present consideration, but to regard such assignments or transfers of future earnings as contrary to public policy because they virtually amount to a species of peonage or involuntary servitude.

"There is another line of thought which leads to the same result and which invokes the well recognized policy of this state, forbidding interference with the prosecution of municipal or other public work. It is the established doctrine that cities, counties, and the like may not be attacked as adherents against the suit of those holding claims against persons to whom such municipalities, etc., may be indebted.

"The ground of this prohibition is that the interests of the public are paramount to those of private persons, and that the welfare of the community at large is not to be prejudiced in order that remedies may be enforced for the collection of debts as between individuals."

DISMISSAL IS PROTESTED.

Philadelphia, July 10.—Protests from all over the country have followed the dismissal of Prof. Nearing are reaching the University of Pennsylvania trustees, who are charged with attempting to free speech. Gifford Pinchot refers to the trustees' action as "controlled action," and in a public statement, says:

"No believer in freedom can escape strong misgivings with all phases of how the' trustees of the University of Pennsylvania dismissed Scott Nearing. Whether it is a step or a heavy blow at freedom of thought that the world of liberal-minded men appears to think it is, remains to be seen.

"If that is so, little more need be said. There is only one point which does not seem to have been sufficiently emphasized. The dismissal of Scott Nearing is the rejection of the conclusions of the Rockefeller Foundation Commission of Education by accumulated wealth. This, to my mind, is the greatest danger that now confronts the universities of the United States. I do not know that there is any organized power which is more to be dreaded for evil than the power to control education through public gifts. Any plan, now thinketh, so is he. As he learns, so he thinks. To control the teachings of a nation is to control the nation itself."

NEW AGREEMENTS SIGNED.

Newburg, N. Y., July 10.—The Typographical union reports that a new five-year agreement, with betterments, has been signed with employers. The Bakers' union has established a nine hours from nine to eight and secured a new agreement. A contract has also been signed into between the Street Car Men's union and the local company.

ORGANIZATION NECESSARY.

Detroit, July 10.—"Organization is the most effective means for advancement of the wage earner," declared Louis F. Post, of the United States department of labor, in an address before the convention of the Association of Governmental Labor Officials of the United States and Canada.

WIN TWO-PLATOON SYSTEM.

Colorado Springs, Colo., July 10.—With the adoption of the two-platoon system by the fire department, membership has increased in membership. The union is affiliated with the American Federation of Labor and recently initiated an ordinance providing for shorter hours. It was adopted by 90 majority.

STATE UNIONISTS TO MEET.

Charleston, S. C., July 10.—Officers of the state federation of labor have issued a call for the annual convention, to be held at the Isle of Palms, August 9 and 10. This organization was only recently formed, and it is the intention of South Carolina unionists to make the event a notable one.

TELEPHONE WORKERS STRIKE.

Rochester, N. Y., July 10.—Members of the Electrical Workers' union employed by the Home Telephone company struck for several women employes because they refused to discriminate against them in favor of refusing to reinstate these workers forced the walkout.

PLUMBERS STRIKE.

Portland, Me., July 10.—Plumbers and steamfitters are on strike to enforce an average wage of $4.50 per day of eight hours. Employers refuse to grant the new rates, despite numerous efforts of the workers to settle the question.

CHAUFFEURS' LAW ILLEGAL.

Columbus, Ohio, July 10.—Common Pleas Judge Dillon has declared the Ohio chauffeurs' license law unconstitutional because it does not set a standard for granting licenses.